

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 (ISO) W

----- 110289

R 201059Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4442

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RANGOON UNN

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9170

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, VS

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE PRG DELEGATION VISIT TO BANGKOK

REF: A) BANGKOK 9090, B) BANGKOK 9134

1. THE CHIEF OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIA DIVISION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (FMA), TOLD US THAT PRESS REPORTS OF A FAILURE OF THE PRG/RTG TALKS IN BANGKOK ARE UNDULY PESSIMISTIC. DESPITE THE "HARSH" TONE OF THE PRG STATEMENT (REF B), THE PRG DELEGATION ASSURED THE THAI IN THEIR MEETINGS THAT THE PRG POSITION IS NOT FINAL AND THAT THERE IS ROOM FOR NEGOTIATION. THE MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE PRG IS QUITE WILLING TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE ISSUE OF PLANES AND VESSELS WHICH FORMER GVN TROOPS BROUGHT TO BANGKOK.

2. THE MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE PRG DELEGATION STATED ITS CLAIM TO THE PLANES AND VESSELS, AND THE RTG EXPLAINED ITS STAND ON THIS PROBLEM. BOTH SIDES AGREED
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THAT THESE WERE PRELIMINARY TALKS AND THAT THEY COULD

PURSUE THEM FURTHER. THE MFA OFFICIAL SAID THE RTG IS STICKING TO ITS PRINCIPLES AND WILL NOT ACT SIMPLY ON POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. BOTH SIDES MUST TRY TO UNDERSTAND THE OTHER'S POINT OF VIEW BEFORE THEY CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

3. THE MFA OFFICIAL DECLINED TO CONFIRM PRESS REPORTS THAT A FURTHER ROUND OF TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE IN SAIGON OR TO SPECULATE ON THE TIME AND VENUE OF THE NEXT ROUND. HE SAID THE RTG FEELS THAT IT HAS PLENTY OF TIME AND THAT BOTH SIDES NEED A BREATHING SPELL TO REFLECT BEFORE HOLDING FURTHER TALKS.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, RECOGNITION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO09170
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750177-0132
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750533/aaaabdij.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BANGKOK 9090, 75 BANGKOK 9134
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RESULTS OF THE PRG DELEGATION VISIT TO BANGKOK
TAGS: PFOR, TH, VS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006